

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11-13, 22 and 23 were provisionally rejected under the non-statutory doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over the claims of application no. 11/652,472. This rejection is provisional because the referenced claims of application no. 11/652,472 are not yet patented. Applicant believes this rejection is moot in light of the amendments set forth above.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 18-21 and 61 are allowed and that claims 5 and 14 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5 and claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14. Consequently, claims 1 and 12 and their dependent claims are believed to be allowable.

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Michael J. Shea
Reg. No. 34,725

MJS:mjs
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100